

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 H-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MMS-01 /050 W

----- 119501

R 121720Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1054

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IT

SUBJECT: DOWNGRADING OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE POSITIONS

REF: STATE 100882

1. IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL, MISSION HAS INFORMALLY NOTIFIED MINISTRIES OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE OF DECISION DOWNGRADE LEVEL OF MAAG CHIEF
FROM 0-8 TO 0-6

2. MAAH CHIEF CALLED ON CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL VIGLIONE AND ALSO
EMNTIONED BRIEFLY TO DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF ADMIRAL MAININI ON MAY
12, STRESSING STATUTORY NATURE OF CHANGE AND ASSURING THEM OF
IRRELEVANCE TO CONTINUED STRONG U.S. INTEREST IN ITALY AND
COMMITMENT TO ALLIANCE. NEITHER COMMENTED BEYOND SOME HEAD-
SHAKING AND CLUCKING NOISES.

3. NATO OFFICE DIRECTOR SALLEO WAS MORE DIRECT WITH EMBOFF ON
MAY 9. SALLEO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM EUROGROUP MEETING HOPEFUL
THAT U.S. WOULD TAKE SERIOUSLY STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVES
AND LOOK FAVORABLY UPON ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ALLIED PROCUREMENT
ORGANIZATION AS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION. ALTHOUGH UNDERSTANDING
OF THE IMPERATIVES BEHIND THE CHMAAG REDUCTION, SALLEO SAID HE THOUGH
THE TIMING WAS BAD CONSIDERING THE NEED FOR INCREASED
CONSULTATIONS FORESEEN AT THE EUROGROUP. VOLPE
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